

THE ACTION OF THE GOVERNMENT.

NO COLLISION YET.

The Evacuation of Fort Sumter Demanded.

THE DEFENCE OF WASHINGTON.

THE REBELS AT PENSACOLA.

THEY COMMAND THE CHANNEL FOR TWO MILES.

SECESSION OF ARIZONA.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, April 11, 1861.

There are now 500 regular troops and 700 volunteer militia sworn into regular service, and under arms in the city. The regulars will be doubled within three days, and the sworn volunteers can be carried up to 2,000 any day, and will be increased several hundred at once. Loyalty is increasing, and there was no shrinking from the oath today. The first companies put to the test yesterday were those known to have the most secessionist element in them. The rest are firm and true, and 40 men have petitioned today to join one of the sworn companies. Volunteers are stationed at all the avenues to the city, and everything made ready for invasion from without or insurrection within. There is known to be an organization of nearly 700 men in this city in the interest of the secessionists, and ready to second any rebel movement.

To the Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, April 11, 1861.

The general excitement occasioned yesterday by the calling out of the Volunteer Militia to be mustered into the Federal service has abated, and to-day four or five companies marched to the War Department and took the army oath, namely—"to bear true allegiance to the United States, and serve them honestly and faithfully against all their enemies and opposers whomsoever, and observe and obey the orders of the President of the United States, and the orders of the officers appointed over them according to the rules and articles for the government of the armies of the United States."

Previous to taking the oath, the volunteers were informed that the obligation was for three months, unless they were sooner discharged, and an opportunity was given to such as might wish to retire. But such men came there purposely to be mustered in, they assumed the obligation accordingly. They now understand that they cannot be ordered beyond the limits of the District of Columbia, and will not be continually on duty as guards to the armories, public buildings, etc. Not quite 200 were accepted yesterday, but 500 altogether will doubtless be mustered in during the day.

Army overcoats have been plentifully distributed among them. When Col. Elsworth of Zouave fame, recently came to Washington, a company of Zouaves was organized, and this gentleman has been tendered the command. He has not, however, accepted it, but has been giving them the benefit of his proficiency in the drill.

It was heretofore stated that Secretary Seward, in reply to a note of the Confederate State Commissioners, refused to receive them in their diplomatic character. They responded, and were again answered on the part of the Government. Yesterday the Commissioners sent him their final communication. It is said to be written with ability, and reflects severely on the Administration, taking the ground that they have exhausted every resource for a peaceful solution of the existing difficulties, and that if civil war result, on the head of the Federal Government will rest the responsibility. They charge the Administration with gross perfidy, insisting that under the shelter of the pretext and assertion that Fort Sumter was to be evacuated, they had actually seized the fort.

They repeat they had almost daily indirect assurances from the Administration that Fort Sumter was positively to be abandoned, and that all the Government's efforts were to be directed toward peace. The Commissioners allege that the Government at Montgomery was earnestly desirous of peace, and that in accordance with its instructions, as well as their own feelings, they left no means untried to secure that much desired end, but all their efforts having failed, they were now forced to return to an outraged people with the object of their mission unaccomplished, and they express the firm conviction that war is inevitable.

The Commissioners left Washington to-day for Montgomery.

FROM CHARLESTON.

CHARLESTON, Thursday, April 11, 1861.

A collision is hourly expected. Northern dispatches state that an attempt will be made to-day to reinforce Fort Sumter in small boats, protected by land guns, the war vessels in the meantime to protect the landing party on Morris Island.

It is reported that Gen. Beauregard has demanded the evacuation of Fort Sumter.

An officer just arrived from Sullivan's Island informs me that three steamers hung off the coast for a long period yesterday. Major Anderson fired a signal-gun at 10 a. m.

An opening on Fort Sumter is expected every moment. The battery is crowded with people in expectancy, and troops are pouring in.

Business is suspended.

The Citadel Cadets are guarding the Battery with heavy cannon. Thousands are waiting to see the attack commence.

One thousand mounted men and two thousand patrols, heavily armed, are guarding the city.

Absolute secrecy is still observed as to future movements.

Senator Chestnut, the special aid, sent with Col. Chisolm, and one of Gen. Beauregard's Staff, have just returned from Fort Sumter with the reply to the order for the unconditional surrender. The answer at the present is refused at head quarters. Every man capable of bearing arms is called out.

The excitement in the city has been intense, in consequence of rumors that a demand had been made for Fort Sumter, and if refused then an engagement would take place this evening at 8 o'clock.

The demand for the evacuation of Fort Sumter was made at 2 o'clock this afternoon, and Messrs. Chestnut, Chisolm, and Lee were despatched to carry the message from Gen. Beauregard.

Thousands of people assembled on the battery this evening in anticipation of the commencement of the fight at 8 o'clock.

Two hundred mounted guards patrol the city.

No fight, however, has occurred yet.

The Harriet Lane is reported to be off the bar, and signals are displayed by the guard-boats and answered by the batteries.

Immense crowds are now at the different newspaper offices, eagerly watching for news.

Roger A. Pryor of Virginia has received an appointment in Gen. Beauregard's staff.

At this hour the excitement has mostly subsided, and no conflict is looked for to-night.

One more regiment went down to Morris Island to-day.

CHARLESTON, April 11—midnight.

Gen. Beauregard at 2 o'clock this afternoon demanded the surrender of Fort Sumter, which Major Anderson declined to accede to, probably with a reservation.

The community are greatly excited, and are expecting an attack to-night, but up to midnight no demonstration has taken place, and probably no attack will be made to-night.

A large portion of our people are collected on the wharves and Battery and every accessible point facing the harbor, anxiously awaiting the result.

The military in the city are under arms, but all is quiet.

Another regiment will arrive here to-morrow.

It is estimated that between 6,000 and 7,000 men are stationed on Morris and Sullivan's Islands, and points along the coast.

Gen. Beauregard will leave at midnight for Morris Island.

It is reported that the Harriet Lane was seen off the bar this evening.

Later—It is currently reported that negotiations will be opened to-morrow between Gen. Beauregard and Major Anderson about the surrender of Fort Sumter.

Officers commanding different posts in the harbor and on the coast are on the alert, expecting an attempt will be made early in the morning to provision and reinforce Fort Sumter.

A formal demand for the evacuation of Fort Sumter was made at 12 o'clock to-day. No one believes that Major Anderson will accede. Fighting is expected to commence in less than twenty hours.

The New-York steamer now being twelve hours over due, it is believed she has been seized by Northern vessels outside the harbor, and made a cover in which to throw troops into the fort.

Maj. Anderson has refused to surrender. His reply is to the effect that to do so would be inconsistent with the duty he owes to his Government.

Hundreds of persons have been waiting for hours on the wharves and other points of observation, to see the beginning of the conflict, among them a great number of ladies.

The people are out on the house-tops, watching with feverish interest for the first signal of attack.

The excitement in the city is intense.

Every train brings throngs of citizens and soldiers to town. Twenty-two car loads came from Columbia to-night.

There are no signs of the supply ships of the fleet as yet, but it is rumored that the Harriet Lane has been seen by a pilot outside.

A call has been made for 300 mounted volunteers, as an extra patrol in the city to-night. Over 1,000 have responded. The 16th Regiment has also been ordered on duty. This embraces all the militia of Charleston not already in the army.

Major Anderson is said to have fired a signal gun during the morning, for what object has not transpired. He has been busy all day strengthening his position.

The movements at Fort Sumter are plainly visible with a glass.

The State has thoroughly prepared for the event. The supply of ammunition and artillery is adequate to any emergency. The confidence in his ability to do all that is attempted is unlimited.

Five signals are now burning in the harbor.

Advice just received state that Georgia has ready 50,000 men, armed and equipped for service.

Stirring times are at hand. The ball may open at any moment with terrible slaughter.

There have been no mails from the North for two days. They are supposed to have been stopped at Washington.

THE VERY LATEST.

CHARLESTON, Thursday, April 11—Midnight.

Negotiations have been reopened between Gen. Beauregard and Major Anderson. For this reason the expected hostilities for the present have been deferred.

FROM MONTGOMERY.

MONTGOMERY, Thursday, April 11, 1861.

The War Department are overwhelmed with applications from regiments, battalions and companies to be taken into service.

Over 7,000 men have been offered from the Border States, exclusive of 2,000 warriors from Indians who desire to cooperate with the Confederate States.

A great number of companies are daily reaching Charleston, Savannah and Pensacola.

FROM NEW-ORLEANS.

NEW-ORLEANS, Thursday, April 11, 1861.

Three Companies of the First Regiment Infantry, and the New-Orleans Cadets, left here this evening for Pensacola.

Several Companies of New-Orleans Militia have volunteered their services, and will leave shortly for Pensacola.

The military enthusiasm has reached its highest pitch.

Recruiting is progressing rapidly.

A resolution has been offered to the Board of Assistant Aldermen, appropriating \$100,000 for the protection of the city against any invasion. It was referred.

A dispatch received to-day from ex-Gov. Roman, Commissioner for the Confederate States at Washington, says Fort Sumter and Pickens are to be attacked, but doubts whether immediate war will follow.

A dispatch from Montgomery, in this evening's Delta, says it has been resolved to make an attack on Fort Sumter and Pickens immediately on the approach of the United States fleet.

A large force is at work making gun-carriages for heavy ordnance.

FROM SAVANNAH AND PENSACOLA.

SAVANNAH, Thursday, April 11, 1861.

Orders were issued from the Adjutant's Office yesterday at Fort Pulaski, prohibiting vessels passing Fort Pulaski without previous information of a Pacific cable. Vessels are required to stop and send a boat to the wharf at Cockspur's Island, to convey a commissioned officer aboard to make an examination. Fort Pulaski is now thoroughly garrisoned.

Advices from Pensacola state that from the Navy-Yard to the new Light-House, two and a half miles, all the guns are arranged to bear on Fort Pickens, and command the channel.

FROM TEXAS.

GALVESTON, Tuesday, April 9, 1861.

It is reported that the Federal troops left in Texas design concentrating at some given point.

The steamer Star of the West and Empire City are still off Indians.

The Mexicans at Matamoros have planted cannon pointing toward Brownsville.

The Legislature has passed the bill dividing the State into six Congressional Districts, as well as the bill to issue State Bonds to the amount of \$1,000,000, to be secured by a special tax.

IMPORTANT FROM ARIZONA.

ST. LOUIS, Thursday, April 11, 1861.

The New-Mexican correspondent of the *The Republican* states that the citizens of Arizona, in Convention at Mesilla on the 10th inst., voted themselves out of the Union, and Gen. C. J. Jones, formerly of Missouri, announced himself as a candidate to represent Arizona in the Congress of the Confederate States.

FROM HARRISBURG.

HARRISBURG, Thursday, April 11, 1861.

The Joint Legislative War Committee have been in session the past three hours, and will probably be until midnight. Three points are being discussed, namely:

First: The amount of money they will appropriate.

Second: Will the General Government furnish arms?

Third: The establishment of a Military Bureau.

Capt. Elliott and Lieut. Halliday of the regular army are at present in consultation with the Committee.

They will report a bill to-morrow, and it will be passed immediately.

PHILADELPHIA NAVY-YARD.

PHILADELPHIA, Thursday, April 11, 1861.

There is more activity at the Navy-Yard. The immediate fitting out of the ship-of-war Jamestown has been ordered, which will require a fortnight. Her destination is supposed to be the Brazilian station.

A crew of eighty men has been transferred to the Water Witch, which is ready for sea.

All the officers at the yard have been ordered to be ready for active service within ten days, and to repair to the frigates Minnesota on the 1st, and the Mississippi on the 15th of May.

THE CHARLESTOWN NAVY-YARD.

Boston, Thursday, April 11, 1861.

The working force at the Charlestown Navy-Yard has been increased to 1,300 men. Rapid progress is made in fitting the Minnesota, Mississippi, Colorado, and ship-of-war Vincennes, for sea. The latter is destined for the coast of Africa to relieve the Portsmouth. The Niagara is shortly expected to arrive at this station. The enlistment of seamen is actively progressing.

MOVEMENT OF TROOPS.

FORT KEARNEY, Thursday, April 11, 1861.

Orders were telegraphed here yesterday for Companies E and F of the 3d Infantry to march without delay to Fort Leavenworth. When these troops leave here, we will only have one company of dragoons for its garrison.

LANDING PASSENGERS.

Boston, Thursday, April 11, 1861.

The steamer South Carolina, hence for Charleston, put into Norfolk yesterday, and landed her passengers, twenty-five in all, and then proceeded for Charleston. It is supposed that she spoke the war fleet, and, from intelligence received, thought it imprudent to take her passengers to Charleston.

FROM NORFOLK.

NORFOLK, Thursday, April 11, 1861.

The steamer Georgia, from Baltimore, has arrived here safe.

The Virginia Commissioners have arrived here, and will arrive in Washington at 11 a. m. to-morrow.

Lieut. Talbot, and R. A. Chew, the Federal Commissioner to Charleston, have also arrived.

IMPORTANT FROM TEXAS.

The steamer Contacoocles, Capt. Griffin, left Pass Cavallo Bar, March 31; touched at Key West on the 4th inst., landed two companies of infantry, and, being unable to obtain water, proceeded to Havana; sailed thence on the afternoon of the 6th inst., and arrived here yesterday morning. The troops in Texas are in excellent health and condition, and are abundantly supplied with provisions and means of transportation. The Empire City would leave Indianapolis in about eight days, with the third detachment of troops. The Star of the West would probably be detained 25 days. The number of troops left in Texas is about 1,000 men, some of whom have to perform a march of 700 miles to reach the coast. The Contacoocles left Pass Cavallo, the steamer Empire City for New-York in 8 days, waiting the arrival of the troops from the interior. Star of the West, for New-York in 25 days. The following are the passengers by the Contacoocles:

Capt. John H. King, First Infantry, commanding; Assistant Surgeon Richard H. Alexander, U. S. A.; First Lieut. Wm. F. Chambliss, Second Cavalry Adjutant and A. C. M. Men.

Company 1, First Infantry, Capt. John H. King, commanding; 40 men.

Company 2, Second Cavalry, Capt. George Steneman, commanding; 40 men.

Company 3, Second Cavalry, Capt. Albert G. Brackett, commanding; 40 men.

Company 4, Second Cavalry, Capt. John H. Jones, commanding; 40 men.

Company 5, Second Cavalry, Capt. John H. Jones, commanding; 40 men.

Company 6, Second Cavalry, Capt. John H. Jones, commanding; 40 men.

Company 7, Second Cavalry, Capt. John H. Jones, commanding; 40 men.

Company 8, Second Cavalry, Capt. John H. Jones, commanding; 40 men.

Company 9, Second Cavalry, Capt. John H. Jones, commanding; 40 men.

Company 10, Second Cavalry, Capt. John H. Jones, commanding; 40 men.

Company 11, Second Cavalry, Capt. John H. Jones, commanding; 40 men.

Company 12, Second Cavalry, Capt. John H. Jones, commanding; 40 men.

Company 13, Second Cavalry, Capt. John H. Jones, commanding; 40 men.

Company 14, Second Cavalry, Capt. John H. Jones, commanding; 40 men.

Company 15, Second Cavalry, Capt. John H. Jones, commanding; 40 men.

Company 16, Second Cavalry, Capt. John H. Jones, commanding; 40 men.

Company 17, Second Cavalry, Capt. John H. Jones, commanding; 40 men.

Company 18, Second Cavalry, Capt. John H. Jones, commanding; 40 men.

Company 19, Second Cavalry, Capt. John H. Jones, commanding; 40 men.

Company 20, Second Cavalry, Capt. John H. Jones, commanding; 40 men.

Company 21, Second Cavalry, Capt. John H. Jones, commanding; 40 men.

Company 22, Second Cavalry, Capt. John H. Jones, commanding; 40 men.

Company 23, Second Cavalry, Capt. John H. Jones, commanding; 40 men.

Company 24, Second Cavalry, Capt. John H. Jones, commanding; 40 men.

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Company 66, Second Cavalry, Capt. John H. Jones, commanding; 40 men.

Company 67, Second Cavalry, Capt. John H. Jones, commanding; 40 men.

Company 68, Second Cavalry, Capt. John H. Jones, commanding; 40 men.

that otherwise well-informed gentlemen as these officers are, should seriously inquire if it was true that Mr. Lincoln really intended to commence a crusade against the South, for the abolition of Slavery.

In regard to the condition of Texas, we learn that the frontier settlements back of San Antonio have been entirely broken up since the withdrawal of the troops.

Two large companies of Indians had come in, one from the north of Red River, and the other from the Rio Grande, marauding a great many settlers, and driving everything before them. Some of the frontier towns are entirely destroyed. Business was utterly ruined, traders were clearing out at any price preparatory to leaving the State, and good judges said that the population would decrease one-third within the next three months. There is nothing but destitution staring the people in the face. At present, they are subsisting on the stores stolen from the army; when those are gone, they must starve. The El